



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Friday, March 4, 2011
District: District 2 - Redding
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON I-5 THROUGH REDDING

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation will begin four construction projects on Interstate 5 through the Redding area this spring and summer. These projects are in addition to the current construction project at the I-5/SR44 interchange.

Work is in progress at the I-5/SR44 interchange and will continue through the fall of 2011. The \$5.9 million project, being constructed by Tullis, Inc. of Redding, will add one auxiliary lane in the southbound direction from one half mile north of Cypress Avenue to the Hilltop Drive overcrossing. This lane will allow for through traffic to be separated from ramp weaving movements through the Interchange.

A project to re-construct, upgrade, adjust, and install new metal beam guard rail at various locations from Cottonwood to just south of Dunsmuir has just recently started and will continue through the fall of 2012. The approximately \$6 million construction project was awarded to Coral Construction of Wilsonville, Oregon. A similar project will also be completed in Tehama County.

Caltrans in partnership with the Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency will begin construction as early as May on the South Redding Six Lane project which will add a 12ft lane and a 10ft shoulder in the median in both the north and south bound directions on I-5 from Bonnyview Road to the I-5/SR44 interchange. This section of I-5 has the highest levels of

congestion between Woodland and the Oregon State line. This project will improve operations, add capacity and reduce congestion. Completion of this \$22.5 million project is anticipated in the fall of 2012.

Construction of a safety project to install cable median barrier, which will reduce cross median accidents, will begin in late spring on a four mile section of I-5 from 1.3 miles south of Knighton Road to 0.5 miles north of Smith Road. This project is similar to the two sections of barrier previously installed on I-5 and will also include earthwork to flatten the existing median and improvements to drainage. The \$1.4 million project is anticipated to complete in the fall of 2011.

Installation of fiber optic cable for Transportation Management System (TMS) field elements, such as cameras, changeable message signs, highway advisory radios, traffic monitoring stations and traffic signals will begin as soon as weather will allow with completion this construction season. The \$5 million dollar project will install fiber optic cable from Anderson to north of the I-5/SR44 interchange and will be followed by a future project to connect fiber optic cable to the Caltrans District Office on Riverside Drive. The project is part of a long-term communications plan and will begin to establish the basic communications infrastructure needed to allow for better management of traffic through the Redding area now and into the future. Once completed, the fiber optic cable will provide a faster and more reliable communications network for relaying traffic information to the users.

For more information please contact Denise Yergenson at 530-225-3260.

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